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Sport for peace and development

Sport for development and peace: building on the foundations

Report of the Secretary-General

Summary

The present report is submitted in compliance with resolution 62/271, in which the General Assembly requested the Secretary-General to report on the implementation of the resolution and on progress at the national, regional and international levels to encourage policies and best practices on sport for development and peace.

The present report reviews the programmes and initiatives implemented since the last report by States Members of the United Nations, United Nations funds, programmes and specialized agencies and other partners (A/62/325 and Corr.1), using sport as a tool for development and peace. In particular, the report takes into account the various opportunities for sport for development and peace that have been provided by the Games of the XXIX Olympiad and the XIII Paralympic Games in Beijing.

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I. Introduction

1. The present report is submitted in compliance with General Assembly resolution 62/271, in which the Assembly requested the Secretary-General to report on the implementation of the resolution and on progress at the national, regional and international levels to encourage policies and best practices related to sport for development and peace.

2. In his report "Sport for development and peace: progress and prospects" (A/62/325 and Corr.1), the Secretary-General outlined measures undertaken during the first year of the three-year Action Plan defined in his prior report entitled "Sport for development and peace: the way forward" (A/61/373). The Action Plan urged stakeholders to meet the challenges and work in four broad areas: (a) advancing a common global framework for sport for development and peace; (b) promoting and supporting the systematic integration and mainstreaming of sport for development and peace as an instrument in development plans and policies; (c) enhancing coordination to promote innovative funding mechanisms and multi-stakeholder arrangements on all levels, including the engagement of sport organizations, civil society, athletes and the private sector; (d) developing and promoting common evaluation and monitoring tools, indicators and benchmarks based on commonly agreed standards aiming towards mainstreaming sport for development and peace.

3. The present report summarizes the steps undertaken during the second year of the three-year road map to implement sport for development and peace programmes and projects by both the United Nations system and Member States, in particular those measures implemented within the framework of the Games of the XXIX Olympiad in Beijing. The report also focuses on the contribution that sport can make to achieving the Millennium Development Goals. The High-level Event on the Millennium Development Goals, held at United Nations Headquarters on 25 September 2008, recognized that specific mechanisms are required to intensify efforts towards achieving the Millennium Development Goals by 2015. Sport has been recognized as a powerful tool in contributing to the achievement of the Goals.

II. Games of the XXIX Olympiad in Beijing

4. The Games of the XXIX Olympiad and the XIII Paralympic Games were held in China for the first time, and also in a developing country for the first time. The Special Adviser to the Secretary-General on Sport for Development and Peace, Wilfried Lemke, was appointed as the Special Envoy mandated to represent the Secretary-General and to head the United Nations delegation at the Games. The manifold objectives of the Special Adviser's mission to Beijing included observing the realization of the Games, in particular, those projects undertaken in partnership with the United Nations; meeting with global partners from the world of sports, the private sector and Government officials; encouraging and facilitating dialogue and partnerships towards social, environmental, economic and human rights improvements in China; advocating for the ratification and observance of the International Convention against Doping in Sport and the Convention on the Rights of Persons with Disabilities; and chairing the Executive Committee meeting of the Sport for Development and Peace International Working Group.

5. Upon the election of Beijing as the host city on 13 July 2001, the United Nations system recognized the importance of the Olympic and Paralympic Games as a catalyst for change. Using the leverage power of the Games, a number of United Nations funds, programmes and specialized agencies have used the Games as a platform for dialogue and collaboration (see sect. VI.B below). The United Nations system used the unique opportunity provided by the Games to communicate the positive role of sport and to encourage collaboration and partnerships towards improvements in various fields in China which last beyond the Games. Prior to the mission of the Special Adviser, the Department of Public Information of the Secretariat coordinated an inter-agency consultative process on United Nations system preparations and intended activities.

III. Olympic Truce

6. Noting the call by the General Assembly in its resolution 62/4 for observance of the Olympic Truce during the 2008 Summer Games in Beijing, the President of the General Assembly made a solemn appeal on 28 July 2008 (A/62/912), urging "all Member States to demonstrate their commitment to the Olympic Truce for the 2008 Beijing Olympic Games, and to undertake concrete actions at the local, national, regional and world levels to promote and strengthen a culture of peace and harmony based on the spirit of the Truce". It has to be noted, however, that the Olympic Truce was violated owing to the world's ongoing conflicts.

IV. Sport for Development and Peace International Working Group

7. The Sport for Development and Peace International Working Group was established in 2004 to formulate and promote the adoption of policy recommendations for the integration of sport for development and peace into the national and international development strategies of national Governments. The fourth Executive Committee meeting of the International Working Group was held on 7 August 2008 in Beijing, bringing together ministers of youth and sport from 38 nations, along with their representatives, to discuss ways to harness the power of sport to advance national and international development goals and to present the report "*Harnessing the Power of Sport for Development and Peace: Recommendations to Governments*".[1] At the meeting, the Executive Committee endorsed the Beijing Declaration on Sport for Development and Peace, which included a proposal for a renewed mandate which would see the incorporation of the International Working Group into the United Nations Office of Sport for Development and Peace as of January 2009.

[1] Right to Play, *Harnessing the Power of Sport for Development and Peace: Recommendations to Governments* (Toronto, 2008).

V. Contribution of sport to the attainment of the Millennium Development Goals

8. The report of the Sport for Development and Peace International Working Group recognizes that while well-designed sport for development and peace programmes hold significant potential to help to drive the attainment of the Millennium Development Goals and related development goals (see table), sport alone cannot ensure peace or solve complex social problems. Sport should be positioned, instead, as a highly effective tool in a broader toolkit of development practices, and should be applied in a holistic and integrated manner with other interventions and programmes to achieve optimal results.[2]

Contribution of sport to the Millennium Development Goals

Millennium Development Goals	*Contribution of sport*
1. Eradicate extreme poverty and hunger	• Participants, volunteers and coaches acquire transferable life skills which increase their employability
	• Vulnerable individuals are connected to community services and supports through sport-based outreach programmes
	• Sport programmes and sport equipment production provide jobs and skills development
	• Sport can help prevent diseases that impede people from working and impose health-care costs on individuals and communities
	• Sport can help to reduce stigma and increase self-esteem, self-confidence and social skills, leading to increased employability
2. Achieve universal primary education	• School sport programmes motivate children to enrol in and attend school and can help to improve academic achievement
	• Sport-based community education programmes provide alternative education opportunities for children who cannot attend school
	• Sport can help to erode stigma preventing children with disabilities from attending school
3. Promote gender equality and empower women	• Sport helps to improve female physical and mental health and offers opportunities for social interaction and friendship

[2] Ibid., summary, sect. 3.

Millennium Development Goals	*Contribution of sport*
	• Sport participation leads to increased self-esteem, self-confidence, and enhanced sense of control over one's body
	• Girls and women access leadership opportunities and experience
	• Sport can cause positive shifts in gender norms that afford girls and women greater safety and control over their lives
	• Women and girls with disabilities are empowered by sport-based opportunities to acquire health information, skills, social networks, and leadership experience
4. Reduce child mortality	• Sport can be used to educate and deliver health information to young mothers, resulting in healthier children
	• Increased physical fitness improves children's resistance to some diseases
	• Sport can help to reduce the rate of higher-risk adolescent pregnancies
	• Sport-based vaccination and prevention campaigns help to reduce child deaths and disability from measles, malaria and polio
	• Inclusive sport programmes help to lower the likelihood of infanticide by promoting greater acceptance of children with disabilities
5. Improve maternal health	• Sport for health programmes offer girls and women greater access to reproductive health information and services
	• Increased fitness levels help to speed post-natal recovery
6. Combat HIV and AIDS, malaria, and other diseases	• Sport programmes can be used to reduce stigma and increase social and economic integration of people living with HIV and AIDS
	• Sport programmes are associated with lower rates of health-risk behaviour that contributes to HIV infection

Millennium Development Goals	*Contribution of sport*
	• Programmes providing HIV infection education and empowerment can further reduce HIV infection rates
	• Sport can be used to increase vaccination rates for measles, polio and other diseases
	• Involvement of celebrity athletes and use of mass sport events can increase the reach and impact of education and prevention campaigns to fight malaria, tuberculosis and other diseases
7. Ensure environmental sustainability	• Sport-based education campaigns can raise awareness of importance of environmental protection and sustainability
	• Sport-based social mobilization initiatives can enhance participation in community action to improve the local environment
8. Develop a global partnership for development	• Sport for Development and Peace efforts catalyse global partnerships and increase networking among Governments, donors, non-governmental organizations and sport organizations worldwide

Source: Harnessing the Power of Sport for Development and Peace: Recommendations to Governments, table 1.

9. A number of countries implement sporting programmes that focus on certain aspects of the Millennium Development Goals (see section VI.A below). For example, the following programmes, which have been ongoing during the reporting period, all contribute to the achievement of Goals 1, 2 and 8: Living for Sport, in secondary schools of the United Kingdom of Great Britain and Northern Ireland; Sport and play for traumatized children and youth, in Bam, Islamic Republic of Iran; Learn and Play, in Kabul and Parwan, Afghanistan; Dreams and teams Poland, in the Czech Republic, Hungary, Latvia, Poland, Slovakia and the Ukraine; Sport in Action, in six districts in Zambia; Grumeti SportWorks, in Mugumu, Kyambahi, and Natti, three wards of Serengeti district, United Republic of Tanzania; Physically Active Youth, in Katutura, Namibia. Sporting programmes directly contributing to Goal 8 include the following: Sharek Youth Forum, in the Occupied Palestinian Territory, Gaza, West Bank; Espérance, in Rwanda; SportWorks Chad, in Chad; Youth in Action Sierra Leone, in eight slum districts in Freetown and in Kono District; Scotiabank Salud Escolar Integral, in El Salvador; Fight for Peace, in Rio de Janeiro, Brazil; and Peace Players international — Middle East, in Israel and the West Bank.

VI. Partnerships and initiatives

A. States Members of the United Nations

10. During the reporting period, Member States have continued initiatives and established national policies or strategies that advance sport for development and peace. That support was reaffirmed by the unanimous adoption of General Assembly resolution 62/271. Guidance and assistance has been provided by Member States to ensure that initiatives on the national, regional and international levels are funded and coordinated.

11. The Group of Friends of Sport for Development and Peace has continued its regular meetings. The Group is an open forum currently composed of 36 permanent representatives to the United Nations in New York. Following initiation in January 2005, it is currently chaired by the Swiss and Tunisian Permanent Representatives to the United Nations. The aim of the Group is to encourage the Member States to incorporate sport into their development policies to help accelerate attainment of the Millennium Development Goals and to promote peace through sport.

12. In August 2008, a note verbale from the Secretary-General was circulated to Member States, requesting information on measures taken since the last reporting period (as reflected in the previous report (A/62/325 and Corr.1)). As at 29 September 2008, information was received from Australia, Belarus, Belgium (the Flemish community), Bosnia and Herzegovina, Bulgaria, Burundi, Canada, China, Denmark, El Salvador, Finland, Germany, Japan, Latvia, the Principality of Monaco, Mozambique, the Netherlands, Panama, the Philippines, Qatar, Poland, the Republic of Korea, Slovakia, Switzerland, the United Kingdom and the United States of America.

13. In addition to the information received by the above-mentioned Member States, reporting is also made on selected activities of Member States as described in the report of the Sport for Development and Peace International Working Group entitled *Sport for Development and Peace: Governments in Action*.[3]

14. The report of the Secretary-General entitled "Sport for Development and Peace: the way forward" (A/61/373) contained an Action Plan on Sport for Development and Peace that included four main lines of action: a global framework for Sport for Development and Peace; policy development; resource mobilization; and evidence of impact. Member States were urged to meet the challenges of those lines of action and to work along them to integrate Sport for Development and Peace in the development agenda at every level.

Global framework for Sport for Development and Peace

15. The Action Plan outlines the following challenge: globally agreed development goals provide a common denominator and common agenda for stakeholders to work together and contribute towards advancing a global framework for Sport for Development and Peace. In response to the above-identified challenge, the United Nations Office of Sport for Development and Peace, under the leadership

[3] Right to Play, *Sport for Development and Peace: Governments in Action* (Toronto, August 2008), available from http://www.righttoplay.com/pdfs/SDPIWG/Governments_in_Action_2008.pdf

of the Special Adviser to the Secretary-General on Sport for Development and Peace, has been instrumental in enhancing cooperation and coordination between initiatives of the United Nations system, Member States, sports federations and organizations, governmental and non-governmental organizations (NGOs).

16. In April 2008, the Secretary-General appointed a new Special Adviser on Sport for Development and Peace, Wilfried Lemke, of Germany. Mr. Lemke replaces Adolf Ogi, former President of Switzerland, who concluded his mandate at the end of December 2007. The United Nations Office of Sport for Development and Peace has been integrated into the United Nations system with the Head Office located at the United Nations Office at Geneva and a liaison office within the Department of Economic and Social Affairs of the Secretariat at United Nations Headquarters. Although a Trust Fund for Sport for Development and Peace has been established at the United Nations Office at Geneva, further investment is required to ensure the sustainability of that structure within the United Nations system. The Special Adviser provides the entry point to the United Nations system with regard to Sport for Development and Peace. His core functions are (a) to lead and coordinate the efforts of the United Nations system to promote understanding and support among Member States and other actors for sport as an instrument for development and peace; (b) to encourage dialogue, collaboration and partnerships in this area; and (c) to represent the Secretary-General at global sports events and in other strategically important forums.

17. A common vision of the role of sport in the service of development and peace is being developed through the advocacy work of the Special Adviser. In close collaboration with the Sport for Development and Peace International Working Group, the Group of Friends of Sport for Development and Peace and the United Nations Inter-Agency Working Group on Sport for Development and Peace (currently chaired by the Department of Public Information), the Special Adviser has been identifying exemplary Sport for Development and Peace initiatives with the aim of encouraging the mainstreaming and replication of these initiatives to provide the most benefit to the achievement of development objectives. Internet platforms such as the International Platform on Sport for Development (www.sportanddev.org) are fundamental to ensuring that a coherent and coordinated knowledge network is put in place. This Internet platform will be complemented in the near future by the website of the United Nations Office of Sport for Development and Peace, which will further raise awareness and define priorities of the United Nations system in using sport for development and peace.

18. A crucial role within the global framework is that of the Sport for Development and Peace International Working Group and its intended integration into the United Nations Office of Sport for Development and Peace. The proposal for a renewed mandate (see para. 7 above) recognizes the importance of developing and adopting an international framework and sustaining momentum around the development potential of sport. A strategic approach has been proposed based on three key components: building awareness and encouraging dialogue on Sport for Development and Peace; reporting on activities of national Governments; and building capacity of national Governments.

19. Increasing regional awareness of the importance of sport for development and peace is evident in activities such as those of the Sport Unit of the European Commission and gatherings such as that of the African Union Conference of

Ministers of Sport, to be held from 10 to 14 October 2008 in Accra, on the theme "Harmonizing and coordinating sport policies for sustainable development".

20. Canada has encouraged the uptake of the concept of sport for development in various multilateral sport forums such as the Sport Council of the Americas, the Commonwealth Sport Ministers Meetings and the Commonwealth Advisory Board on Sport. China successfully hosted the Games of the XXIX Olympiad and the XIII Paralympic Games in Beijing, thus offering a good opportunity to use sport for social, economic development and building a harmonious society of understanding, respect, equity, tolerance and peace. China also introduced the resolution adopted by the General Assembly on the Olympic ideal and the Olympic Truce in October 2007 and contributed to the United Nations-backed Trust Fund for Sport for Development and Peace in 2008. El Salvador has recently set up a legal framework in favour of sports, which underlines the importance of sports in the general education of men and women.

21. Germany is actively engaged in implementing the aims of resolution 62/271 and in following up the momentum created by the International Year of Sport and Physical Education 2005 to strengthen sport as a means to promote education, health, development and peace. As the principal contributor to the Trust Fund for Sport for Development and Peace, Germany ensures that the global framework as coordinated by the Special Adviser is maintained.

22. In appreciation of the educational value of sport, the Republic of Korea hosted the sixth International Olympic Committee (IOC) World Forum on Sport, Education and Culture, in Busan in September 2008. Mozambique hosts the Regional Anti-Doping Organization office, thus assuming an important role in the region in the field of anti-doping. Switzerland provided strategic guidance and financial support to key international initiatives such as the United Nations Office of Sport for Development and Peace, the International Working Group, and the International Platform on Sport and Development. UK Sport, the United Kingdom Government body responsible for international development of sport, is a partner in the International Platform on Sport and Development and contributes funding and expertise in order to increase the visibility of sport's development potential among the target groups of the Platform, to contribute to improving sport and development practice, and to increase dialogue between and within stakeholder groups and geographic regions.

Policy development

23. The Action Plan (see A/61/373) outlines the following challenge: Sport for Development and Peace strategies need to be explicitly incorporated into national and international development plans and policies and vice versa, with enhanced cooperation and coordination among all stakeholders. In response to the above-identified challenge, the publication of the report *Harnessing the Power of Sport for Development and Peace: Recommendations to Governments*[1] is instrumental in promoting and supporting the systematic integration and mainstreaming of Sport for Development and Peace as an instrument in development plans and policies. The efforts of the Sport for Development and Peace International Working Group, the United Nations system and increasingly sports organizations in promoting the principle of "sport for all" and developing inclusive sports policies has been particularly evident during the reporting period.

24. The Convention on the Rights of Persons with Disabilities received its twentieth ratification on 3 April 2008, triggering its entry into force 30 days later. This marks a major milestone in the effort to promote, protect and ensure the full and equal enjoyment of all human rights and fundamental freedoms of persons with disabilities. The Convention is also the first major human rights treaty of the twenty-first century. Article 30 of the Convention provides that States Parties shall take measures to promote the participation of people with disabilities in mainstream sporting activities and disability-specific sporting and recreational activities, and to ensure that children with disabilities have equal access to participation in recreation and sports.

25. The United Nations Educational, Scientific and Cultural Organization (UNESCO) Convention against Doping in Sport, which entered into force on 1 February 2007, has 94 States parties to the Convention as at 1 September 2008 (for additional information on UNESCO activities, see para. 60 below).

26. Numerous Member States have undertaken efforts in policy development and legislation during the reporting period. In April 2008, Bosnia and Herzegovina enacted a new Law on Sport, which established the Anti-Doping Agency. In Belarus, physical culture and sport are one of the cornerstones of State policy based on the law on Physical Culture and Sport. In Slovakia, the Act on the Organization and Support of the Sport Sector was approved in July 2008. In Bulgaria, the policy for sport for social development is reflected in the programmes Sport for School Students and Sport for All, which aim at improving health and promoting positive social values. Sport Canada is working with other federal departments and members of the Canadian sport community to examine how sport and physical activity can be used to advance other federal policy objectives in areas such as health, justice, immigration and social development.

27. Based on the principle of "Close to people, beneficial to people and convenient for people", China started a rural sport development project in 2007, which focuses on building rural sports infrastructure. Sports education is integrated in all the curricula of primary and secondary education. The European Conference "Education through sport" was held in April 2008 in Bratislava, Slovakia, whereby participants shared information on sports projects that help to achieve the Millennium Development Goals.

28. Policies of the Government of Germany aimed at promoting international cooperation in sports and creating sustainable sports structures in partner countries are being implemented by Government agencies in cooperation with German sports organizations. The United States Department of State Bureau of Educational and Cultural Affairs houses SportsUnited, which includes the Sports Envoy, Sports Visitors and Sports Grant Competition programmes designed to start a dialogue at the grass-roots level.

29. In 2008, the Government of the Netherlands presented a new policy on sport and development cooperation entitled "An open goal. The power of sport in development cooperation", which acknowledges the impact of sport as a catalyst to achieve development goals. The main goal of the policy is to empower authorities and organizations in developing countries to harness the power of sport with sustainable programmes. In recognition of the importance of enhancing the sound body and spirit of children, Japan, in line with its concept of a "human society", advocates for the inclusion of physical education in school curricula.

30. Under the motto of "Sports for all everywhere", the sport authority of the Republic of Korea has launched the Sports 7330 Initiative (workout 30 minutes per day, 3 days per week) including the expansion of sports facilities and sports instructors. Latvia uses sport as a tool for social inclusion, integration and equal opportunities and at the same time engages in efforts to make sport activities environmentally sustainable. The reactivation of the Philippine Sports Institute as the premier institution for sports education in the country will optimize the integration of sports into the Filipino culture to develop expertise and skills. In 2007, the Government of Poland approved the Strategy for the Development of Sport until 2015, a policy document that defines the vision and the directions for activities related to sport under the main strategic goal of an active and fit society.

31. The 2007-2009 Programme Concept on Sport and Development of the Swiss Agency for Development Cooperation calls for increased focus on building the acceptance and use of sport as a tool to enrich the development work of government programmes and project partners, NGOs, bilateral agencies, and international organizations. The main goals of the programme are to support Sport for Development and Peace through validation, systematization, operationalization, integration, sensitization, documentation, and finally cooperation and coordination.[4] The Ministry of Education of the Syrian Arab Republic has adopted, within its new strategy and workplan, sport education as one of the most important tools in education, and includes the Olympic concept in the curricula.

Resource mobilization

32. The Action Plan (see A/61/373) outlines the following challenge: scaling up of Sport for Development and Peace initiatives for the achievement of the Millennium Development Goals and other development objectives requires resource mobilization and creative partnerships. In response to the above-identified challenge, innovative funding mechanisms and multi-stakeholder arrangements have been instigated on all levels, including the engagement of sport organizations, civil society, athletes and the private sector.

33. In addition to the continuation of its large Sports Outreach Programme, which helps building capacity to conduct sport-based community programmes in the Pacific and Caribbean regions, as well as in South Africa, Australia also established programmes to address the involvement of women and girls in sport, in particular indigenous persons and persons with disabilities. The development partnership between the Flemish community of Belgium and South Africa uses sport based on a transversal approach (culture, youth and sport) with programmes implemented in community centres in four provinces. In Burundi, the first edition of the Inter-Communal Football Tournament in 2007 provided a platform for exchange and friendship between Hutu and Tutsi youth. Canada encourages the use of sport to promote intercultural dialogue and peace through support for the Peres Center for Peace Twinned Peace Soccer Schools project.

34. China continues to play an active part in international sport activities and exchanges, including through its outreach programme. Since 1957, more than 2,574 coaches have been sent to 123 countries at the request of receiving countries to help to improve the skills of athletes in table tennis, kung fu, gymnastics, diving and

[4] *Sport for Development and Peace: Governments in Action*, op. cit., p.153.

badminton. In 2009, the Government of Denmark will support the national Year of Sports, during which a series of events covering the whole spectrum from elite sport to sport for all will be organized. Denmark will host the IOC Session and Olympic Congress in 2009 in Copenhagen.

35. The Ministry of Education of Finland takes part in bilateral, multilateral and intergovernmental cooperation, focusing on developing legislation and administration, promoting employment and equality, as well as stepping up anti-doping activities and preventing spectator violence. The Federal Government of Germany and the member organizations of the German Olympic Sports Federation and other sports organizations work with partners in developing countries in order to create sustainable sports structures and to train personnel in these countries. In 2008, Germany funded and implemented projects in 48 countries in areas such as soccer, sports programmes for women and youth and sports for disabled persons. The Principality of Monaco contributes to the programme entitled "A humanist sport at the service of youth development in the cities", to be implemented by UNDP in partnership with the city of Cape Town, South Africa, whose target is to empower the underprivileged youth of slums to become agents of development.

36. Mozambique is undertaking an initiative targeting the strengthening of technical cooperation between Mozambique and its neighbouring countries, particularly South Africa and Swaziland, regarding the opportunities emerging from the Federation Internationale de football association (FIFA) 2010 World Cup to be held in South Africa. Panama has signed a cooperation agreement with Brazil, Colombia, Cuba, Mexico and Spain. In this context, projects of capacity-building of human resources and strengthening of sport organizations are carried out. The Philippines Mutual Assistance for Progress in Sports established mutual cooperation between the Philippines and other countries including bilateral agreements signed in 2007 with China, Cuba and Spain, among others.

37. In the framework of the Union of European Football Associations 2008 European Football Championship (UEFA EURO) 2008, both Austria and Switzerland supported various projects at the national level aimed at raising awareness of the educational and health benefits of physical activity and sport as well as sport's potential as a platform for bringing people together in a meaningful way. As a result of London's hosting of the 2012 Olympic and Paralympic Games, UK Sport is leading a major international sport development legacy programme in partnership with the British Council and UNICEF. The International Inspiration programme is being implemented in five countries, Azerbaijan, Brazil, India, Palau and Zambia, with five more at the planning stage: Bangladesh, Ghana, Jordan, Mozambique and Trinidad and Tobago.

38. Initiatives by Member States specifically aimed at contributing to the achievement of the Millennium Development Goals include the Social Integration Through Sport programme in Angola, whereby factories that produce soccer balls and other sports equipment provide employment opportunities for inmates in prison facilities and in Mozambique, a programme for persons with disabilities whereby they are provided with the opportunity to earn a living by selling refreshments at sporting events. Such programmes contribute to poverty reduction (Goal 1). Global partnerships for development (Goal 8) have allowed Angola to benefit from the knowledge and expertise of Governments, NGOs, and international bodies. Brazil and Portugal, for example, have forged strong knowledge-sharing partnerships with

Angola.[5] In Mozambique, many sporting events and programmes are the result of partnerships or sponsorships with NGOs such as Right To Play and international companies such as Coca-Cola Ltd. and Cadbury.[6]

39. The Governments of Azerbaijan, Benin, Ethiopia, Lebanon, Mozambique, Occupied Palestinian Territory, Papua New Guinea, Peru, Sierra Leone, South Africa, Sri Lanka, United Republic of Tanzania, Uganda, Vanuatu and Zambia all have programmes using sporting events for children to promote the importance of education and the value of attending and staying in school to contribute to the achievement of Goal 2.

40. Through the Azerbaijan National Policy on Gender, the Government estimates that women currently occupy 25 per cent of the positions on the boards of national sports federations.[7] The Ministry of Youth and Sports of Lebanon has established a unit to encourage the participation of girls and young women.[8] In Benin the 10-year Education Plan emphasizes the importance of education for girls, as well as the need for adult education programmes for women, hence contributing to Goal 3.[9] In South Africa the White Paper on Sport and Recreation South Africa, situates sport as a key platform from which to launch public education campaigns about HIV/AIDS. This is achieved through the Community Mass Participation Programme, which aims to raise community awareness around issues related to HIV/AIDS.[10]

41. In Palau, gender equality and improving maternal health are areas that the Government targets through regular public sporting events, such as walk and run events and mini-races. The Government coordinates the participation of doctors, particularly obstetricians and gynaecologists, within such sporting events to provide information on clinical services, family planning, and other health issues related to women and families (Goals 3 and 5).

42. Burundi, El Salvador, Ethiopia, Ghana and the United Republic of Tanzania have programmes directed at raising awareness of HIV/AIDS prevention and treatment options through sport (Goal 6).[11] In the United Republic of Tanzania, the Sport Development Department delivers the Peer Coach Programme, which equips youth leaders with the training and tools they need to act as peer promoters on HIV/AIDS issues within their communities.[12]

43. The National Sport Policy of Papua New Guinea favours the participation of girls in sports, and seeks to give girls greater access to sport programmes (Goal 3). The bilateral partnership between the Government of Australia and the Government of Papua New Guinea in the area of sport for development represents a unique partnership that addresses the national and international development priorities of both countries (Goal 8).[13]

[5] Ibid., p. 23.
[6] Ibid., p. 97.
[7] Ibid., p. 47.
[8] Ibid., p. 88.
[9] Ibid., p. 51.
[10] Ibid., p. 138.
[11] Ibid., p. 60.
[12] Ibid., pp. 158-159.
[13] Ibid., p. 121.

44. In Thailand under the Poverty Reduction Strategy and the Tenth National Economic and Social Development Plan of 2007-2011, sport is specifically referenced as a tool for social development and peacebuilding in the Tenth Plan. The National Sports Policy of Vanuatu for 2007-2011 promotes sport as a tool for economic development. Building and maintaining sport infrastructure can create jobs in remote rural areas and in towns and cities. The Vanuatu Association of Sports and National Olympic Committee encourages each sport association to have women represented at the executive level.

Evidence of impact

45. The Action Plan outlines the following challenge: mainstreaming sport for development and peace in national and international programmes and policies requires comprehensive monitoring and evaluation. The development and promotion of common evaluation and monitoring tools, indicators and benchmarks based on commonly agreed standards remains a global challenge in the field of Sport for Development and Peace. While the impact of practical programmes and concrete projects in the field is often clearly evident, and while recognizing the many success stories, measuring tools must be further developed. Whereas many Governments evaluate development programmes and projects involving sport under their established general evaluation methods, there is a need for a refined and common sport-specific approach. It has to be noted, however, that programmes and projects using sport also promote positive immaterial values and thus produce a number of results that are difficult to measure quantitatively, such as social cohesion, mutual understanding and respect, and the like.

46. Bosnia and Herzegovina holds that sport is one of the rare ways to eliminate racial and religious barriers and all other known forms of discrimination. Canada notes the importance of rigorous evaluation and research to build the evidence base and to better understand the role that sport can play in development and its potential long-term impacts. For Panama, impact was evident since it won its first gold medal during the Olympic Games in Beijing. According to the experiences of El Salvador, sport contributes very positively to the integration of people in the society because sport is open to everyone. It also helps to diminish delinquency and criminality.

B. United Nations funds, programmes and specialized agencies

47. The United Nations Children's Fund (UNICEF) works with UK Sport and the British Council to deliver International Inspiration, the international social legacy of the London 2012 Olympic Games. The initiative aims to get 12 million children participating in sport, and improving their lives as a result. In Africa, UNICEF country offices promoted the importance of quality basic education through the African Cup of Nations hosted by Ghana. UNICEF and the European Aquatics Federation entered into a new partnership that will take advantage of the growing popularity of swimming across Europe and seek to build support among the swimming community with the goal of improving access to safe water and basic sanitation by 2015. UNICEF teamed up with Nike and Ashoka on a sport for development project competition to identify innovative ways for sports to promote social change. Collaboration with players from the National Basketball Association, Football Club Barcelona and Manchester United and other teams continued to expand. Several priorities in working with sport partners have emerged, such as the

need for longer-term focus, human resource and financial investments, and monitoring and evaluation of results. UNICEF started linking its sport-based activities in China as early as 2006 while using sport as a key programmatic strategy in basic education, HIV/AIDS prevention, girls' equality and child protection. At a number of well-attended special events and camps held in the framework of the Olympic Games, UNICEF raised awareness on the rights of vulnerable children as well as on gender issues. At the fifth summer camp for children affected by HIV/AIDS, 32 child-friendly spaces were established to help children affected by the Sichuan earthquake to recover from psychological stress through sport.

48. The Food and Agriculture Organization of the United Nations (FAO) and the Confederation of African Football (CAF) signed a cooperation agreement in March 2008 with the aim of increasing public awareness on issues of food security and the fight against hunger and poverty. CAF will join the ranks of other footballers, including FAO Goodwill Ambassadors Roberto Baggio and Raúl González, in seeking to bring an end to hunger worldwide. FAO organizes the annual Run-for-Food race which takes place on or around World Food Day (16 October), and is dedicated to the fight against hunger with registration fees donated to TeleFood projects.

49. The Office of the United Nations High Commissioner for Refugees (UNHCR) has partnered with an increasing number of private companies (e.g., Nike and PricewaterhouseCoopers), sports organizations (e.g., IOC, the International Table Tennis Federation and the Fédération Internationale de Volleyball), athletes and NGOs with the aim of bringing sport and education to refugees and internally displaced persons around the world. Through its global call to action, ninemillion.org, UNHCR has continued to raise awareness and funds for education and sport programmes for the world's refugee youth. Under the Giving is Winning campaign, UNHCR and IOC collected more than 82,000 items of sports clothing, both before and during the 2008 Olympic Games, for distribution to refugees around the world. New projects are also on the way, such as a three-year agreement signed with Football Club Barcelona in January 2008 which is soon to be brought to a new stage.

50. With volunteerism a vital component of sports, the United Nations Volunteers (UNV) programme engaged in sports events to raise awareness and mobilize people as volunteers towards development and peace. On International Volunteer Day, UNV activities included a basketball tournament for youth in conflict in Kyrgyzstan, netball matches for post-conflict community building in Sierra Leone, and football matches in Myanmar to engage rival ethnic groups. In Haiti, at the Cité du Soleil, UNV works with UNICEF and IOC to support young people vulnerable to exploitation, violence and abuse by including them in sporting events (including with the Dominican Republic), thus contributing to the establishment of a climate of peace and fraternity. To raise awareness of the importance of volunteerism for development and its potential to help achieve the Millennium Development Goals, UNV honoured the 4,000 volunteers supporting the XIII South Pacific Games in Samoa in August 2007, the largest sporting event ever held in the South Pacific. UNV also partnered with the Beijing Organizing Committee for the Games of the XXIX Olympiad, to enhance the capacity of Olympic and Paralympic Games volunteers and encourage citizen participation in sustainable development through volunteer action to save energy consumption and reduce pollution. With 100,000 volunteers trained within the framework of the Games, the project will help develop

a large-scale three-year Volunteerism For Development programme across China. The initiative, valued at $1.4 million, is designed to enhance the capacity of Olympic volunteers and, through this process, to establish volunteerism as an effective tool to achieve the development targets of China.

51. Together with the provincial government of KwaZulu-Natal, South Africa, the United Nations Human Settlements Programme (UN-Habitat) hosted the International Youth Crime Prevention and Cities Summit 2008 in the city of Durban in June 2008 with the objective of preventing and reducing crime and violence in cities, towns and villages. On that occasion, sport was highlighted as a tool to fight criminality and drug abuse as it provides an alternative, healthy lifestyle to the youth while empowering them. The Summit realized the establishment of an International Youth-led Urban Development Platform, which will engage with youth in disenfranchised neighbourhoods through positive development approaches including sports and arts. The United Nations Office on Drugs and Crime and UN-Habitat are in the process of developing an outline for a tool on sports for safe neighbourhoods that will be developed together with the Platform.

52. UNDP China, with the support of the Global Environment Facility, contributed to the Beijing Organizing Committee's goal of a carbon-neutral Olympic Village through the provision of four clean-energy Olympic buses to serve as official transport for all athletes between the Village and Olympic venues. UNDP China supported the Beijing Organizing Committee and the Ministry of Environment in designing green technology models for the Olympic Village and Olympic Forest Park, including energy efficient systems, solar power applications and water reuse.

53. Subsequent to the signing in November 2005 of a 10-year agreement between the United Nations Office on Drugs and Crime and the Qatar Olympic Committee, the Global Sports Fund has received financial support from the Qatar Committee of $750,000 and $100,000 from the Olympic Committee of Asia to run youth camps and award financial grants to NGOs to run youth-in-sport activities within local communities. In October 2007, the Office and the Qatar Olympic Committee held the first Global Sports Fund youth camp for 96 boys and girls and coaches in Jounieh, Lebanon. The next youth camp is being planned in Abidjan in fall 2008.

54. On 21 June 2008, in Nairobi, the United Nations Environment Programme (UNEP) launched the first edition of the three-month Play for the Planet: Play for Peace initiative, in partnership with IOC and sports-goods maker PUMA, as well as the Kenya Broadcasting Corporation and ABC Bank. The initiative aims at using the power of sport to promote peace and reconciliation among Kenyans, and to provide a positive environment for interaction for young people affected by the recent post-election conflict in Kenya. UNEP also continues to engage children from the Kibera slum in Nairobi through its leadership training programme, Nature and Sport Camp. In August 2008, Chinese-born basketball megastar Yao Ming was appointed as the agency's first Environmental Champion. UNEP worked closely with the Beijing Organizing Committee and local authorities to make the Olympic and Paralympic Games environmentally friendly, including ozone-friendly Games; reduced road traffic during the competitions; and diminished domestic and industrial use of coal. In October 2007, the Seventh World Conference on Sport and the Environment passed the Beijing Communiqué on Sport and the Environment, which acknowledged the environmental effort made by the Beijing Organizing Committee. UNEP and the Japanese-based Global Sports Alliance will stage the 2008 Global

Forum for Sport and Environment, in Alicante, Spain, from 4 to 6 October, with a focus on the connection between sport and climate change.

55. The International Labour Organization (ILO), through its International Programme for the Elimination of Child Labour, launched in Accra a Red Card campaign to fight trafficking of women and children, at the start of the African Cup of Nations 2008. The campaign aims to draw on the popularity of the African Cup of Nations to generate public awareness of the harsh reality of trafficking in women and children and to encourage global support. In China, ILO-supported activities to promote the status of women and equal opportunity and treatment in all areas of life, including in sport. Research was published in 2008 on issues related to the promotion of decent work and sports, namely "Ethics, decent work and sport"[14] and "Decent work, local development and sport".[15] A training course on key competencies and skills through sports is being developed by ILO to take place in Turin, Italy, in 2009.

56. In the framework of the Beijing Olympic Games, UNAIDS, in collaboration with IOC and the Department of Medical Services of the Beijing Organizing Committee, executed an overall HIV-prevention and anti-stigma campaign reaching out to migrant workers, people living with HIV as well as Olympic volunteers, staff and athletes. With the support of the World Health Organization (WHO), availability was ensured of documents on universal precaution and other clinical prevention for the health and dental staff of the Beijing Organizing Committee, and 100,000 volunteers received an HIV/AIDS information package. Within the Olympic Village, 50,000 packages containing 100,000 condoms and communication products were made available free of charge. The UNAIDS secretariat plans, in partnership with IOC, to carry out a similar type of campaign around the first Youth Olympic Games in Singapore in 2010, considering the event as a unique opportunity to reach out to young people. UNAIDS is a partner of UNICEF in the Unite for Children, Unite Against AIDS campaign and is currently reviewing its long-standing partnership with the International Cricket Council. Michael Ballack will continue his assignment with UNAIDS in his role as Goodwill Ambassador until the FIFA World Cup 2010 in South Africa.

57. WHO continued implementation of its Global Strategy on Diet, Physical Activity and Health. The Pan American Health Organization (PAHO/WHO) provided support to a network of Ciclovias in the Americas, a mass-recreational activity whereby car-free streets are open for biking, jogging and walking on Sundays or holidays. WHO found that linking regular football training with a health and gender educational course was instrumental in bringing about positive changes in young men's perception of gender equality. The 1996 WHO Memorandum of Understanding with IOC is to be revised and strengthened during 2008-2009.

58. At a side-event of the fifty-second session of the Commission on the Status of Women, organized on 28 February 2008 at United Nations Headquarters in New York, the Division for the Advancement of Women of the Department of Economic and Social Affairs launched its new publication "Women 2000 and beyond: women, gender equality and sport". As the host of the New York secretariat for the Convention on the Rights of Persons with Disabilities and its Optional Protocol, the

[14] International Labour Office, *Ethique, travail décent et sport* (Geneva, 2008).

[15] Ibid., *Travail décent, developpement local et le sport* (Geneva, 2008).

Department supported the unveiling, on 30 August 2008 in the Paralympic Village in Beijing, of a Wall of Support for the Convention.

59. The Department of Public Information chaired a meeting of the United Nations Communications Group Working Group on Sport for Development and Peace in June 2008 that focused on United Nations system preparations and intended activities in support of the 2008 Olympic and Paralympic Games. The Department prepared a coordinated overview of United Nations system activities in support of the Games, which were shared with all United Nations entities. On a regional level, United Nations information centres organized initiatives involving sport. Commemorating the International Day of Peace on 21 September 2007, the information centre in Bujumbura partnered with national ministries in organizing a "peace ride" in Burundi's capital city with the participation of 100 cyclists, including the Head of State and the Executive Representative of the Secretary-General for the country. In April 2008, the information centre in Prague, together with a non-governmental organization (Association for Voluntary Activities (INEX SDA)), organized a series of 10 workshops entitled "Football for development", on sport and the Millennium Development Goals. In the lead-up to the 2010 Soccer World Cup in South Africa, the information centre in Pretoria is working on a number of initiatives in support of the Goals, including a national South African street soccer league for street children and a proposal aimed at promoting volunteerism during the World Cup.

60. UNESCO hosted a ministerial round table on the theme "Sport for development and peace" for the 11 countries of the Great Lakes region of Africa in Zanzibar, United Republic of Tanzania, in September 2008, followed a week later by an International Congress on Sport for Peace and Development, held jointly with a Caribbean Community Sport Ministers Caucus in Kingston. Arising out of the Congress, the Kingston Declaration, signed by Jamaica and UNESCO, stresses the need for national Governments to provide financial resources for sports facilities as a matter of priority. In addition, UNESCO has succeeded in enhancing the visibility of traditional sport and games on the international sports agenda with the regular World Forum on Sport, Education and Culture, jointly organized with IOC. UNESCO highlighted anti-doping messages during the Olympic and Paralympic Games and called for ratification of the International Convention against Doping in Sport. With the establishment by UNESCO of the Fund for the Elimination of Doping in Sport, on 23 May 2008, least developed or low-income States parties will be provided with resources to take anti-doping measures focusing on youth education projects, policy advice and capacity-building.

61. On 8 August 2008, the United Nations Postal Administration issued a set of six commemorative stamps and three souvenir sheets on the theme "Sport for peace", designed by Romero Britto of South America. In conjunction with Olympic Expo Beijing 2008, souvenir sheets and a special event sheet were issued composed of the Chinese zodiac sign "Year of the Rat" and the text "Sport for Peace", with Olympic rings appearing on the tabs of the stamps alternately.

62. The World Tourism Organization Sustainable Tourism-Eliminating Poverty Foundation hosted the 2008 Beijing Sport, Tourism and Development Forum during the Olympic Games. A World Tourism Organization-FIFA Partnership Programme was created to promote Africa in international markets and reinforce the image of

the continent as a safe and significant tourist destination in conjunction with the 2010 World Cup.

63. A number of United Nations peacekeeping operations continue to utilize sports as a vector for community outreach and reconciliation. The United Nations Mission in Liberia is involved with the NGO Right to Play, which sponsors football matches for amputees and held a match on the International Day of Peace. The United Nations Operation in Côte d'Ivoire has been involved with the national football team the Elephants, with players from both sides of the line of conflict, in promoting peace and reconciliation. The United Nations Integrated Mission in Timor-Leste (UNMIT) helped to sponsor the visit of UNICEF Goodwill Ambassador Jackie Chan in June to promote the use of martial arts for peace, and UNMIT created a Day of Peace public service announcement with Chan on his message regarding sports. In the United Nations Interim Force in Lebanon, Indian troops lead yoga classes for the population.

VII. Next steps

64. While recognizing that sport alone cannot resolve complex economic and social challenges, the United Nations system and Member States have continued to draw on its power during the reporting period to promote education, health, development and peace. Following the appointment by the Secretary-General of a new Special Adviser on Sport for Development and Peace, renewed efforts are being undertaken to coordinate activities undertaken throughout the world by diverse actors using Sport for Development and Peace.

65. The Olympic and Paralympic Games in Beijing in August and September 2008 provided the opportunity to bring together the United Nations system and the Government of China to create measurable improvements for the Chinese people, particularly in the areas of environment, HIV/AIDS awareness, the benefits of volunteer work and labour rights.

66. While the global framework referred to in the Action Plan (see A/61/373) still requires greater investment and conceptualizing, numerous measures have been undertaken to ensure coordinated and coherent responses on the international level. The report of the Sport for Development and Peace International Working Group and the endorsement of a new mandate for the International Working Group reflect the international support for such a body working closely with Governments. The coordination of the United Nations system prior to the Beijing Olympic and Paralympic Games reflects the importance of the role to be played by the United Nations Inter-Agency Working Group on Sport for Development and Peace.

67. The second year of the Action Plan shows that clear support is now required from the Sport for Development and Peace International Working Group to assist Governments in the implementation of the policy recommendations provided by the International Working Group. This will enable the consolidation of sport in cross-cutting development strategies and the incorporation of sport and physical education in international, regional and national development policies and programmes.

68. It is evident that greater resources are required to enhance the sustainable implementation of the Action Plan and a diverse funding base is particularly required for the United Nations Office of Sport for Development and Peace through

multi-stakeholder arrangements and creative partnership arrangements on a voluntary basis to ensure its position within the United Nations system.

69. Efforts are also required to promote aid agencies to explicitly reference in their policy documents sport and physical education as an accepted and legitimate tool which can gain allocated funding from within the aid budgets of national Governments.

70. Furthermore, a more comprehensive monitoring and evaluation framework must be developed and reinforced with systematic and scientific monitoring tools to demonstrate results, as well as to capture and disseminate lessons learned. Monitoring and evaluation is particularly required of those sporting programmes that are aimed at contributing to the achievement of the Millennium Development Goals.

71. Sports celebrities must continue to be encouraged to serve as spokespersons and goodwill ambassadors so as to help to foster the positive values of sport and the achievement of development goals.

72. Member States that have not done so must be urged to ratify the International Convention against Doping in Sport, and to increase coordination at the international level for a more effective fight against doping.